



## Janet Leona Meland

September 19, 1932 - February 9, 2022

Janet L. Meland, age 89 of Glendive, Montana, passed away on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at the Glendive Medical Center in Glendive. A Funeral Service will be on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, at 2:00 PM, at Zion Lutheran Church in Glendive with Pastor Brenda Frelsi and Pastor Avis Anderson officiating. Pie and coffee will be served at the church. Interment will follow in the Dawson County Cemetery in Glendive. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Janet Leona Meland was born in Duluth, Minnesota, on September 19, 1932. Her parents, Violet (Rustad) and Walter Meland felt so blessed! They would go on to have five more children, but Janet was the oldest and the wisest one. In 1942, the family moved to Glendive, and shortly thereafter joined Zion Lutheran Church on Power Street. It was the center of their lives from then on. Janet attended Glendive Public Schools and graduated from DCHS in 1950. She went to work for the Public Health Office, and before too long she was hired as a telephone operator by Mountain States Telephone and Telegraph Company. She remained there and worked her way up to Chief Operator. She stayed through the Company's name changes and the many technological changes, and when operator services moved from Glendive, she retired. She opened Answering by Janet, and worked from the home she and her Mother shared. In those days, many of the oilfield companies and local businesses relied on her to answer their phones and transfer their messages efficiently; air to ground services were eventually added. When she decided to close the

service, she joined the staff at Zion Lutheran as the office secretary. After ten years of being the friendly face at the desk she retired.

Service was an important part of Janet's life. She was a lifelong member of Telephone Pioneers of America, served on the Board of the Frontier Gateway Museum, was a Trustee for Dawson Community College, held various offices in Beta Sigma Phi, and was an enthusiastic member of Business and Professional Women. She taught Sunday School and was the Sunday School Superintendent for many years, and always sang in the choir and was a member of Church Council. She was serving on Zion's Memorial Committee at the time of her passing.

Janet's name was at the top of many "who-to-ask" lists, because whether you needed someone to make the kids a cake, go to jail to raise money for March of Dimes (Jail and Bail), join in a shopping trip to the Attic or Hart-Albin, canvas the neighborhood for a fundraising campaign, provide temporary housing for someone visiting, or buy you a cup of coffee and a piece of pie, she never said no. Not once. Her generosity was well known and much appreciated.

Janet was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, William and Richard.

She is survived by her sister, Marie Meland of Glendive; her brothers, Herb (Norla) Meland of Casper, Wyoming; and Jim Meland (Bonnie) of Spokane, Washington; her nieces, Christine Meland of Bozeman, Montana; Joelle (Shane) Pattison of White Settlement, Texas and Joelle's father Dick Kutzler of Glendive; Tina Meland of Liberty Lake, Washington; her nephews, Kelly (Irma) Meland of Cleburne, Texas; Steven Meland of Glendive and Chase (Sami) Colbrese of Billings, and their Mother Sue Colbrese of Glendive; and Eric Meland of Spokane. Also surviving are her great-nieces, Erin (Chris) Paschel of Cleburne, Texas; Paige Grassman and Joe of Wilsonville, Oregon, and Paige's father, Brentie (Mindi) of Power, Montana; Anna Meland of Glendive, and Blaise Pattison of White Settlement, Texas; her great-nephews, Heath (Kim) of Cleburne, Texas, Kendon Meland of Glendive, and Jackson

Meland of Spokane, Washington.

We, her family, will remember Janet as a kind, loving soul who gave the warmest hugs. Hugs to you, sweet Janet. We will miss you.

Memorials are suggested to Zion Lutheran Loaves and Fishes, Frontier Gateway Museum, or the Dawson County Food Bank. Remembrances and condolences can be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Dawson County Cemetery

Corner of North Sargent Ave. and East Allard  
Street  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

FEB **15**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (MT)

Zion Lutheran Church  
401 Riverview Avenue  
Glendive, MT 59330

# Tribute Wall



“ *Janet Leona Meland*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *LaNette Simonton lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland*



**LaNette Simonton** - March 10, 2022 at 04:23 PM



“ *Amber McPherson lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland*



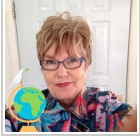
**Amber McPherson** - February 17, 2022 at 02:15 PM



“ *Denise Stoddart lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland*



**Denise Stoddart** - February 16, 2022 at 03:38 PM



“ Janet was an inspiration to me.... always kind and thoughtful but full of fun and "spunky!" She was very intelligent and principled.



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**Myrna Kintz** - February 15, 2022 at 02:46 PM

KS

“ Karen Schock lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland



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**Karen Schock** - February 15, 2022 at 10:28 AM

RB

“ My deepest sympathies to my dear friend, Marie, and to Herb, Jim and all extended family. Janet was a gem among Gems! Always full of knowledge as well as humor and quick come backs. Rest In Peace, Janet, you have definitely earned your wings.

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**Rosemary Baldwin** - February 14, 2022 at 07:56 PM

MG

“ Marlene Gehnert lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland



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**Marlene Gehnert** - February 14, 2022 at 06:38 PM

JL

“ *My condolences to Janet’s family*



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**Janette Legato** - February 12, 2022 at 11:09 PM

MK

“ *Mary Kutzler lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland*



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**Mary Kutzler** - February 12, 2022 at 02:43 AM

KJ

“ *Kay McDonough Jensen lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland*



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**Kay McDonough Jensen** - February 11, 2022 at 11:30 PM

JT

“ *Meland family, I think Janet was already gone from the family home when my family lived next door on valentine street but I have fond memories of her and your mom and dad.*

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**julie Thilmony** - February 11, 2022 at 11:07 PM

BT

“ Janet's Family  
She was one of my first Bosses. She was a Beautiful Lady inside and out. I'm so glad I got to visit with her a couple weeks ago.  
RIP Janet!



Becky (Chouinard) Tipton - February 11, 2022 at 07:06 PM

CM

“ Marie and family, I always liked Janet. She was a fair boss at Mountain Bell and a sweet lady at church. I'm glad to have known her. She was always cheerful and smiling.

Cathie Mann - February 11, 2022 at 06:35 PM

BH

“ Marie, We are so very sorry to hear about Janet. Such a sweet lady and always a smile for all! Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Bill and Rita Hanley - February 11, 2022 at 02:15 PM

GE

“ Grace Koffler Evinrude lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland



Grace Koffler Evinrude - February 11, 2022 at 09:43 AM



NK

“ Sorry to hear of your loss. Janet was a very special person who always had a positive thing to say about everyone. I will always remember what she said when we all got together to have birthday cake with her last year, that she didn't deserve all of the thank yous and good wishes. Who more deserving than Janet to receive so many thoughtful messages. We will miss seeing your face at the Circle of Prayer and going out for lunches.



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**NANCY KORB** - February 11, 2022 at 09:29 AM

BS

“ Bob And Kristie Stanhope lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland



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**Bob and Kristie Stanhope** - February 10, 2022 at 09:37 PM

MH

“ To Janet's family, I am so sorry for your loss.. She was a faithful secretary for years and years and I always looked forward to hugs when I came home to cook for the lutefisk supper. God has gotten another angel.



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**Margo Hellickson** - February 10, 2022 at 03:30 PM

PF

“ *An angel on earth who has joined the other angels in another dimension. Blessings to the family! Take Care! Ginger-Kelly*



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**Pulse Family** - February 10, 2022 at 03:21 PM

CH

“ *Janet's family: Sorry to hear about your loss. She was one of most kindness person, have know her for a long time. She was my supervisor working at the telephone office as an operator and gave me the privaledge to work with the new personnel starting their new adventure. I am happy that she is now with all of her friends and co workers at peace with the Lord and the Angels up above. Rest easy Janet, we will meet again. Carol Hanson*

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**Carol Hanson** - February 10, 2022 at 03:17 PM

CH

“ *Carol Hanson lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland*



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**Carol Hanson** - February 10, 2022 at 03:08 PM



“ *Diane Crockett lit a candle in memory of Janet Leona Meland*



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**Diane Crockett** - February 10, 2022 at 02:31 PM

KG

“ Jim, Marie, Herb and families,  
Sorry to hear about Janet, she was quite a person. She will be  
missed. All of you are in our thoughts.  
Ken and Mickey Gilbertson

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**Ken Gilbertson** - February 10, 2022 at 01:24 PM

KO

Herb, Marie, Jim and families Sorry to hear about your sister Janet

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**Karl Overlie** - February 11, 2022 at 07:45 PM

LM

Marie, I am so sorry to hear about Janet. She was a supervisor when I  
worked at Mountain Bell. She was a lot of fun and so pleasant and kind  
to all. It was a nice experience working there under Janet's supervision.  
You are in my thoughts. Linda McLeod

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**Linda McLeod** - February 16, 2022 at 11:45 PM